bank and make the bank a greater success and make it more useful to the agriculturists. I am sure that when this Bill is passed into law, it will to a great extent serve the interests of the public. I may also add that, if in course of time, as a result of our experience it is found that the Act requires any change, I am quite sure that either myself or those who follow me will introduce the necessary amendments.

"I once more thank the House for their readiness and willingness to spare time for considering this Bill and for all the help they gave to facilitate the passage of the Bill."

The question that the Bill be passed into law was put and carried.

III.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908 (BILL No. 12 OF 1931).

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, the reconsideration of the Bill further to amend the Estates Land Act has been put on the agenda for to-morrow in accordance with the desire of the Leaders of various Groups, and His Excellency has agreed to allow the Council to consider the subject to-morrow. After this subject is considered, the rest of the time will be taken up for Budget discussion, which will come to a close to-morrow evening."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I ask if it is to suit the convenience of the Leaders of groups that the reconsideration of the subject has been postponed to-morrow?"

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I discussed this matter with the Leaders of groups both day-before yesterday and to-day and it was agreed that this Bill might be taken up to-morrow."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I submit, the House is entitled to know why the Bill has not been taken up to-day."

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"We have very little time left to-day to consider it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"What I ask is whether this subject is postponed to to-morrow in order to suit the convenience of the Members of the House."

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"Perhaps to suit the convenience of Government."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Is it only perhaps or definite?"

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"I am unable to say anything further."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if His Excellency the Viceroy's sanction has been given to the changes proposed in the Bill?"

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"The Hon. the Revenue Member will throw light on the subject to-morrow."

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Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I think it is but right that I should make a statement, because there is a feeling, at least among people who sit on this side of the House, that I have been easily agreeing to time being taken away from the discussion of Budget grants. It was about three or four days ago that the Hon. the Leader of the House called a conference of myself, Diwan Bahadur Muniswami Nayudu and the Hon. the Chief Minister and told us that it was necessary that this Estates Land Bill, as returned by His Excellency the Governor, should be considered by the House. As there was not much time left for the consideration of this measure at a future date and as the Government wanted facilities for the consideration of this measure during this session, both my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, and I felt that we might give them the necessary facilities for the passing of this measure. At that time I did not realize the difficulties that may be met with. I took it for granted that the Bill might be considered either this afternoon or to-morrow morning. I should like to point out to the hon. the Leader of the House that, unless we are able to consider this Bill to-morrow morning, it will be impossible to go on extending the time from not only day to day but hour to hour. It has been somehow the misfortune of the Estates Land Act, that in spite of the trouble that has been taken for having this measure amended and the amending Bill passed into law, whenever this Bill is taken up, there seems to be some evil genius which comes across and postpones the measure from hour to hour. We have had amendments sprung on us not only from day to day but from hour to hour and minute to minute, as it happened last time when the Bill was under consideration. I hope, at least the Hon. the Leader of the House and the Hon. the Revenue Member who is in charge of the Bill, will realize that there is some sanctity about legislation and that there is no use hurrying measures if it is not possible to get the requisite sanction in time. I would plead with both my hon. Friends that, if they cannot get the sanction by to-morrow morning, they might make up their minds to have the measure considered at the next session of the Council when we shall also have the considered Bill of the Government which has been promised in His Excellency's Message."

Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, may I say a word with reference to the understanding arrived at in the conference of the Leaders of groups? I, at any rate, felt as representing the people who would be affected by the Estates Land Act Amending Bill that this Bill should be passed and receive the Governor's sanction in some form or other, as early as possible. Sir, the demand for an amendment of this Bill has been existing for the last more than twenty years. The Government have taken all possible steps from time to time to constitute committees to consider the various provisions of the Bill. This House also has constituted a number of committees to consider these amendments. Therefore, I do not agree

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with the statement of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition that amendments were sprung on the House at the last moment. I think, Sir, there has been sufficient discussion on the floor of the House with regard to the various amendments. In view of the fact that the Message of His Excellency wants only certain provisions to be considered, I think, Sir, it will be in the interests of the people concerned and in the interests of this House, if we see that the time that has been spent over this Bill is not at all wasted and that the Bill becomes law as early as possible. It is from that point of view that I consented to give the necessary facilities for the consideration of this Bill as early as possible. I cannot really agree with my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, when he says that the consideration of this Bill might be put off for the next session of the Council in July or August. It will only mean—I do not know why the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition is anxious to postpone it—it will only mean the Bill lapsing for some reason or other. For we do not know exactly what will happen so far as this Council is concerned. We cannot say for certain whether this Council will continue or not. If it continues, it will be all right; otherwise there will be no chance of reconsidering this Bill and the Message of His Excellency, unless some opportunity is given in this session itself. I strongly appeal to the House that, in the interests of those who will be affected by this Bill, it should be considered as early as possible if all our efforts should be of any use. Therefore, if the sanction of His Excellency the Viceroy is not received to-morrow, I, for one, would urge on the House to consent to sit if necessary for a day more as early as possible and see that the Bill is passed as early as possible.''

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish to say a few words. I must say at the outset that I do not quite follow the argument of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. No doubt, His Excellency has decided to remit the Bill to this House for making certain amendments. But before the date and time for the consideration of this Bill was fixed, all the Leaders of the Parties were consulted and with their consent a particular date was fixed during the days allotted for the Budget discussion. In this connexion, the hon. the Leader of Opposition has mentioned that amendments have been sprung upon the House without any notice by the Government and other Members of this House. As far as the official amendments are concerned, rough drafts were prepared yesterday evening when the Leader of the Opposition himself was present. And he has also stated that the members of his Party have taken objection to his readily consenting to the proposals of Government. I am afraid he has not shown how the time of the House has been wasted by putting off the consideration of the Bill. Because, after postponing the consideration of this Bill, the House has proceeded with the remaining business on the agenda. He has also stated that he will be agreeable if the business of the Estates Land Act is taken up the first thing to-morrow morning and

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that if it is not so taken up and if it is to be taken up later on in the day, he will have some objection. On that point, I am afraid I do not follow him. If he considers that it is important that hon. Members should have the opportunity of discussing further Demands, I do not see how that objection will disappear if this work is taken up as the first item in the agenda instead of later on. During all the stages of this Bill, both yesterday and to-day, I believe all the Leaders of Parties have been consulted by the Government and I do not see how on this score any of the Leaders of the Parties could have any grievance."

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—"Sir, as the Leader of the House, my only concern is to see that this business is put on the agenda for to-morrow. As no objection has been taken to this step by the Leaders of Groups, I have nothing further to say in the matter."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of personal explanation, Mr. President, I think hon. Members who have spoken after me have misunderstood what I said. I stand by my consent that this measure may be taken up even to-morrow afternoon if necessary as long as we are going to consider it to-morrow. My point was that we cannot sit for a day longer afterwards and if the Bill is not considered to-morrow some other arrangements should be made for the consideration of the Bill. At the conference of Leaders of Parties, the Hon. the Leader of the House suggested that the Bill might be considered, if necessary on the 27th. Hon. Members who were present there would remember—I do not know whether Diwan Bahadur Muniswami Nayudu was there at that time when this was mentioned, but I think the Hon. the Revenue Member will bear me out—that I said that 27th would not be suitable as already Members have stayed for a long time and as they thought they might not be able to be present any longer."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

VII.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *Public Works and Labour Department U.O. Note No.* 3106-*D*/34-5, *dated* 27*th February* 1934, *with reference to question No.* 587, *answered on* 1*st February* 1934.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Vide Appendix V at pages 756-762 infra.